

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 11, 13, and 15-17 have been amended, and claims 1-10, 12, and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. This amendment is made to even more clearly recite the claimed invention, does not add prohibited new matter and is fully supported by the specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that dependent claims 11 and 13-17 would be allowable once properly rewritten into independent form. Accordingly, Applicants note that claims 11, 13, and 16 have been rewritten as independent claims (incorporating the elements of claim 10 from which these claims previously depended), and claims 15 and 17 now depend from allowable independent claims 11 and 16, respectively. Thus, Applicants submit that claims 11, 13, and 15-17 are in condition for allowance.

Objections to the Claims

The Office Action objects to claim 1 due to alleged informalities. Without agreeing with or acquiescing to the objection, Applicants note that claim 1 has been cancelled. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding objection to claim 1.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Takaku et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,099,491, hereinafter "TAKAKU"). The Office Action also rejects claims 10

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and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by TAKAKU or SHEN (ISO/IEC, Coding of Moving Pictures and Sounds, hereinafter “SHEN”). Without agreeing with or acquiescing to the objections, Applicants note that claims 1-10 and 12 has been cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-10 and 12.

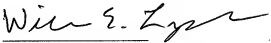
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 11, 13, and 15-17 are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0089. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Ming Ji et al.



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